

NOV 19 1953

Assistant Director, O/RR

Chief, Economic Research

Civil Defense

1. In reply to your memorandum of 16 November 1953, the following paragraphs describe the status of the study of civil defense in the USSR in the Economic Area of O/RR.

2. During the time that this subject was the responsibility of D/Z a set of standing requirements on this subject were formulated and submitted to the Requirements and Control Staff of O/RR. A copy of these requirements is attached. Standing requirements were also incorporated into O/SI requirements for transmission to REG in Germany. A special conference was held with the USSR Branch, FIED, concerning requirements for information to be obtained from open Soviet sources. Appropriate action was also taken in the Special Intelligence field.

3. Responsible D/Z analysts conferred with [REDACTED] and with appropriate persons in other US intelligence agencies, including the Federal Civil Defense Agency, to ascertain the efforts of those agencies in this field. A summary of the information developed in the course of these contacts was prepared but was not published, pending further inquiry into (a) special aspects of physical security of Soviet installations and (b) relationship of the para-military organizations to the civil defense effort of economic enterprises.


4. Files were established organizing existing information and providing a basis for the organization of additional material as it is collected.

5. Upon the reorganization of the Economic Area of O/RR, the analyst primarily responsible for civil defense in D/Z was given a new assignment. Responsibility for continued coverage of the subject was given to D/S and the D/Z files were turned over to that Division. This responsibility was, in turn, assigned to the Establishments Branch of D/S. You are familiar with the reorganization problems that have arisen in connection with that Branch. Since their resolution, the responsibility has been placed on the Organizations and Management Branch of D/S and is assigned to the Organizations Section of that Branch.

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6. Because of the problems of reorganization, the analysts who are charged with covering civil defense have had little opportunity to do more than familiarise themselves with some of the intelligence literature extant on the subject. The responsibility is fully recognised, however, and both basic research and source development projects on civil defense are being considered for inclusion in the new research program of D/S.

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ATTACHMENT

PR/S:BAT:jms (19 Nov 1953)

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